

**CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

Unless otherwise indicated, all dates given are for 2002.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The mission of the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment to ensure public health, environmental quality, and economic vitality. Cal/EPA's vision is of a California that enjoys a clean, healthy, sustainable environment that sustains the quality of life for current and future generations, and protects our diverse natural resources.

Sustainability and Pollution Prevention

Also known as source reduction, pollution prevention (P2) is an environmental protection approach that reduces or eliminates pollutants before they are generated, in contrast to more traditional regulations that seek to control pollutants via management strategies. P2 is an essential function of Cal/EPA, and its boards, departments, and offices have long included pollution prevention strategies as a preferred method for lessening the impacts of toxic and other problematic chemicals on the environment. Even so, there is great interest both within Cal/EPA and from industry and the public for an agencywide, comprehensive, multimedia approach to P2 that would provide for better coordination of these activities, especially within the context of promoting sustainable management systems. The Office of the Secretary's P2 efforts are directed toward this end.

The Cal/EPA Strategic Vision promotes P2, supporting the "integration of pollution prevention strategies into the mainstream of the permitting and regulatory process."

Goal 4, "Communities that are free from unacceptable human health and ecological risks due to exposure from hazardous substances and other potential harmful agents," features no less than five objectives that focus on reducing or minimizing chemical contaminants and waste streams.

Accomplishments

1. **Guiding Principles:** Cal/EPA identified four fundamental elements that are essential for an effective agencywide, comprehensive, multimedia pollution prevention program: (1) a prevention mindset; (2) effective coordination of all environmental programs; (3) an emphasis on multimedia solutions; and (4) pollution prevention is a necessary component of any integrated management system that supports a sustainable environment. The Secretary has instructed staff to adopt these elements as guiding principles for their program building efforts.
2. **California P2 Partnership:** The California P2 Partnership is a project initiated by the Department of Defense (DoD) to establish a stronger working relationship with the State of California to better protect the environment by promoting pollution prevention, enhancing

communication, and fostering innovation. Cal/EPA entered into negotiations on behalf of the State with DoD to move towards adoption of a P2 partnership charter. The partnership kick-off session was recently completed in San Diego (June 11) at the naval submarine base with more than 50 attendees representing DoD, Cal/EPA, and several of the military bases in California. There was consensus after this initial conference to schedule a subsequent working session to draft the actual charter.

3. **Coordination Meetings:** The Sustainability Steering Committee met to discuss their task of promoting and coordinating an agencywide pollution prevention agenda, including the specific recommendations from the SB 1916 Pollution Prevention Advisory Committee. The committee is considering the appointment of an agencywide team of senior managers to: 1) discuss pollution prevention initiatives; 2) identify ways to improve cross-media and cross-program coordination; 3) establish a public participation process; and 4) promote P2 as a key component of sustainable management systems.

Priorities

1. **California P2 Partnership:** Cal/EPA will continue to participate in the effort to draft and adopt a P2 Partnership Charter with DoD. Cal/EPA will host a charter drafting conference in late summer 2002. DoD, Cal/EPA, and various California-based service commanders expect to sign the charter at a formal ceremony before the end of the year. A partnership work plan will also be prepared to guide subsequent implementation steps in pursuit of the charter's goals.
2. **P2 Coordination Meetings:** Cal/EPA will convene a P2 coordinating team and adopt a governing charter as the first step in implementing an agency-level P2 program. The P2 team, in cooperation with the Sustainability Steering Committee, will adopt a P2 work plan to guide subsequent implementation steps in pursuit of the recommendations of the SB 1916 Pollution Prevention Advisory Committee and Cal/EPA's Strategic Vision.
3. **Pollution Prevention Leadership:** The Office of the Secretary will assist in preparations for, and will participate actively in, the celebration of National Pollution Prevention Week (September 16–22); and will participate in the P2 Annual Western Regional Conference.

Environmental Justice Program

Starting in the early 1980s, minority and low-income communities across the nation began to question whether they bore a disproportionate amount of environmental risk. Environmental justice (EJ) is a priority for Cal/EPA. In 1999, Governor Davis signed the first legislation in the nation that defined, established, and funded a statewide environmental justice program (SB 115, Solis, Chapter 728, Statutes of 1999). In Cal/EPA's Strategic Vision document published in July 2000, Cal/EPA articulated the goal of environmental justice "to reduce or eliminate the disproportionate impacts of pollution on low-income and minority populations."

Accomplishments

1. **Joint Meeting of the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice and Cal/EPA Advisory Committee on Environmental Justice:** On May 18, Secretary Hickox chaired and convened the first joint meeting of the interagency working group and the advisory committee in Los Angeles to discuss environmental justice priorities for Cal/EPA. Approximately 150 people representing communities throughout the state attended and provided public testimony on local environmental justice issues affecting their respective communities.
2. **Cal/EPA Advisory Committee on Environmental Justice:** Cal/EPA established an external 13-member environmental justice advisory committee. The advisory committee conducted two public meetings—May 17, in Los Angeles, and June 19, in Oakland—to discuss the development of Cal/EPA’s intra-agency environmental justice strategy. The committee provides recommendations and functions as a resource in the development and implementation of environmental justice priorities for Cal/EPA. Approximately 200 people representing communities throughout California attended both meetings.
3. **National Environmental Justice Demonstration Pilot Project:** Cal/EPA, the Air Resources Board (ARB), the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), and a broad range of federal, State, local, community, and private sector stakeholders are partners in a two-year Federal Interagency Environmental Justice Demonstration Project in Barrio Logan (a section of San Diego). The purpose of the project is to identify, mobilize, and coordinate federal, State, local, and community resources to improve air quality and community and public health, especially children’s health. The U.S. EPA serves as the federal lead for this project, and the Environmental Health Coalition serves as the local community lead. The demonstration project is intended to provide air monitoring data to the community, investigate the incidence of asthma among residents, and educate residents about health problems that air pollution can cause. Additional objectives of the project are to encourage residents to become involved in: 1) identifying opportunities for pollution prevention, 2) reducing hazardous waste, 3) improving land use, and 4) improving environmental law enforcement, inspection, and permitting.
4. **Environmental Justice Web Page:** Cal/EPA developed an environmental justice Web page dedicated to facilitate access to environmental information and resources for stakeholders interested in environmental justice. Cal/EPA recognizes that to effectively engage affected communities in decision-making processes it must enhance their ability to participate. One way of achieving this is by making information accessible to stakeholders in a timely manner. The Web page provides information about the environmental justice program at Cal/EPA, legislation, partners, news, events, and links. The Web page address is: www.calepa.ca.gov/EnvJustice/.
5. **Cal/EPA Agencywide Commitment to Environmental Justice:** On March 28, Secretary Hickox reinforced Cal/EPA’s commitment to environmental justice (EJ) with an agencywide

environmental justice commitment memorandum. The memorandum articulates Cal/EPA's commitment to ensure the incorporation of environmental justice into programs, projects, policies, and activities throughout Cal/EPA and its BDOs.

6. **Environmental Justice Training:** Cal/EPA conducts monthly environmental justice training for all staff to raise awareness on EJ issues and provide fundamental skills on examining EJ issues. The training is conducted by a team of Cal/EPA staff representing the boards, departments, and offices within Cal/EPA. Approximately 500 Cal/EPA staff members have been trained.

Priorities

1. **Intra-Agency Environmental Justice Strategy:** Cal/EPA, in partnership with the interagency working group on environmental justice and the advisory committee on environmental justice, will be developing an agencywide EJ strategy. Public workshops will be conducted to seek public input.
2. **Environmental Justice and Public Participation:** Cal/EPA will begin work to examine opportunities to enhance its public participation efforts on environmental justice issues. Cal/EPA will develop a guide for staff on how to effectively engage with communities and stakeholders on EJ issues.
3. **Cal/EPA Grants and Loans Funding Opportunities:** Cal/EPA will develop a comprehensive list of existing grants and loan funding opportunities available to communities and nonprofits. The intent of this document is to provide accessible information on funding opportunities within Cal/EPA.
4. **Environmental Justice Training:** Cal/EPA will continue to provide monthly EJ training to staff. The environmental justice training covers both general concepts and media-specific issues in addressing environmental justice.

Brownfields

Cal/EPA is committed to putting California's brownfields (areas previously used for industrial purposes that are now polluted or perceived to be polluted) back into productive use in order to stimulate redevelopment in urban cores, protect public health and the environment, provide jobs, and improve the quality of life in affected communities.

To accomplish these goals, Cal/EPA—with DTSC and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)—identifies impediments to brownfields cleanup and redevelopment, develops cleanup incentives, coordinates available cleanup processes, and develops networks that can assist in cleaning up and redeveloping brownfields.

Accomplishments

1. **Brownfields Coordination:** Cal/EPA continued discussions with State, local, and federal agencies—as well as with developer, business, environmental, and community interests—to

develop relationships with all involved in brownfields development activities and to identify brownfields policy issues.

2. **Cleanup Processes:** Cal/EPA participated with DTSC, SWRCB, regional water quality control boards, and the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) in ongoing efforts to examine the various State-overseen cleanup processes and programs. The goal has been to identify differences between those processes and programs and the impacts of those differences.
3. **Brownfields Working Group:** Cal/EPA held its first meeting of the Brownfields Working Group, comprised of representatives of the local governments, businesses, developers, and environmental justice and environmental advocacy groups to identify additional brownfields cleanup and development impediments.
4. **Brownfields Environmental Insurance:** Cal/EPA hired MGP Environmental Partners LLC to assist in the implementation of the Financial Assurance and Insurance for Redevelopment (FAIR) Program. In developing the request for proposals for the program, Cal/EPA has conducted stakeholder forums (including two public workshops) to gain input and insights on how the program should be focused.
5. **Implementation of SB 32 (Escutia):** Cal/EPA, in conjunction with DTSC, SWRCB, and OEHHA, has begun the process of implementing the various facets of the California Land Environmental Restoration and Reuse Act (SB 32, Escutia Chapter 764, Statutes of 2001), which established the CLERR program. In implementing this program, Cal/EPA has done the following:
 - Oversight Agency Guidelines. Cal/EPA has prepared guidelines for oversight agency selection to be used under the CLERR program and posted those on its Web site.
 - Screening Values. Cal/EPA, in consultation with DTSC, SWRCB and OEHHA, has identified the list of compounds for which screening values are to be developed and has identified specific questions to ask of peer reviewers of the screening values developed by the San Francisco RWQCB (found in the board's document entitled "Application of Risk-Based Screening Levels and Decision-Making to Sites with Impacted Soil and Groundwater, Interim Final, December 2001").
 - Pilot Program. Cal/EPA has initiated the required pilot study on the use of screening numbers as a tool for promoting cleanup of contaminated sites in three RWQCB areas (Los Angeles, Santa Ana, and San Diego). To provide preliminary information on the pilot study and to solicit applications for participation in the study, a brochure describing the pilot study and an online application form have been developed.
6. **Cal/EPA Brownfields Web Site:** Cal/EPA has developed a Web site that provides information on the various Cal/EPA brownfields programs.

Priorities

1. **Brownfields Environmental Insurance:** Cal/EPA will continue with its efforts to develop the FAIR program. The request for qualifications and proposals will be advertised by August. Cal/EPA will host discussions with insurance companies regarding the request for qualifications and proposals and receive and evaluate proposals. If any of the proposals meet the objectives of the program, Cal/EPA will make a selection and negotiate program features and policy terms. The activities in this second half of the year are intended to lead to implementation of the program by early 2003.
2. **Implementation of SB 32 (Escutia):** Cal/EPA will continue to implement the various facets of the CLERR program. In implementing this program, Cal/EPA, anticipates the following:
 - Screening values. The SWRCB will submit a request to the president of the University of California requesting that peer reviewers be identified, and submit for peer review the San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board's document entitled "Application of Risk-Based Screening Levels and Decision-Making to Sites with Impacted Soil and Groundwater, Interim Final, December 2001." Cal/EPA anticipates receiving peer review comments by the end of the calendar year. The results of the peer review will guide subsequent development of Cal/EPA screening values.
 - Pilot study. Cal/EPA will continue to accept applications for participants in the pilot study in the Los Angeles, Santa Ana, and San Diego Regions.
 - Cleanup programs. Cal/EPA, with DTSC and SWRCB, will develop an informational document that compares the DTSC cleanup program with the cleanup program administered by the RWQCBs. This document will help community groups, local residents, and others to better understand the different regulatory processes that govern cleanups in California.
3. **Site Cleanup Improvements:** Cal/EPA will work with DTSC, SWRCB, and the regional boards to develop and implement recommendations for enhancements of the site cleanup processes in the state and ensure efficient and effective cross-program and cross-media coordination of those processes.
4. **Brownfields Working Group:** Based on the comments and issues shared at the initial meeting, Cal/EPA will schedule additional meetings and organize the working group to further evaluate issues, provide recommendations, and identify additional California brownfields incentives.
5. **Coordination Efforts:** Cal/EPA will organize additional coordination forums to facilitate the sharing of information and to allow for increased coordination of efforts. The additional forums may be intra-agency (all brownfields-related programs within Cal/EPA), interagency (all brownfields-related programs within State), and intergovernmental (brownfields-related programs at the local, State and federal levels).

Border Environmental Affairs

The border affairs unit of Cal/EPA directs the border environmental program in the California-Baja California, Mexico border region. The vision of the program is to promote a standard of excellence for international cooperation and collaboration that focuses on resolving environmental and natural resource issues to help ensure a cleaner, safer, healthier, and more prosperous border region. To that end, Cal/EPA and its boards, departments, and offices have been working to address cross-media and bi-national issues. In the past six months the Cal/EPA border affairs unit achieved the following:

Accomplishments

1. **Transfer of Surplus Computers Pursuant to the California-Mexico Environmental Protection Act of 2000 (AB 2317, Ducheny, Chapter 742, Statutes of 2000):** Cal/EPA located approximately 60 personal computers and related accessories that were being declared surplus by California State agencies and could be used for scientific purposes in the Baja California border region. These computers were transferred to the City of Tijuana Department of Ecology, the Baja California Secretariat for Ecology, and the Mexican Federal Attorney's Office for the Protection of the Environment (PROFEPA). They are now being used to monitor and track environmental compliance and issues related to water, soil, and air contamination.
2. **Signing of Environmental Education Agreement:** Cal/EPA led the development of an environmental education agreement that was signed between Cal/EPA, the Mexican Federal Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT) and Secretariat of Education (SEP); California Secretary for Education, the Baja California Secretariat for Ecology and State Education System, and the CIWMB. The purpose of the agreement is to engage in a cooperative effort to share resources and information and to develop a bi-national environmental education curriculum that will be taught to elementary students in the border region. It is anticipated that this agreement will result in a program that will be the predecessor of similar programs to be developed in other areas of Mexico.
3. **Implementation of the Pretreatment and Wastewater Monitoring Agreement Program:** Cal/EPA is currently implementing the agreement that was signed by the State of California and government entities of Mexico in March 2001. The first phase of the project, the development of a report entitled "California/Baja California Industrial Wastewater Monitoring, Pretreatment, and Minimization Program: Needs Assessment" was completed during the first half of 2002. The report identifies a strategy for coordinating the participation of U.S. and Mexican municipal, state, and federal government organizations for the development of a wastewater monitoring, pretreatment, and technical assistance program; a survey of industrial dischargers, pollutants discharged, and receiving waters in the Mexicali, Tecate, and Tijuana municipalities of Baja California; industrial wastewater worker needs and opportunities; and resources needed to monitor and analyze industrial wastewater.

4. **Environmental Technology and Service Opportunities Conference:** Cal/EPA sponsored a forum and trade exhibit to introduce environmental technology vendors to the opportunities available for their products in Baja California. The Tijuana conference enabled participants to discuss the need for environmental technologies and the regulatory environment in northern Mexico. Participants also viewed products and participated in a tour of sites between Tijuana and Mexicali.
5. **Agreement of Cooperation Between the States of Baja California and California to Carry Out a Pilot-Scale Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program for the City of Tijuana:** Approximately 60 percent of the milestones for this program were completed between January and June. These milestones include the negotiation and development of an implementation strategy and timetable with the City of Tijuana and the collection of surplus vehicle emission monitoring equipment that could be donated or loaned and installed at City of Tijuana car shops. The translation from English to Spanish of training manuals relating to the program was completed, and technicians from Tijuana have been trained on the proper operation and maintenance of the vehicle emission monitoring equipment.
6. **Assistance to Tijuana for the Siting of Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants and a Replacement Landfill:** Cal/EPA has coordinated the technical assistance to the City of Tijuana necessary to properly site new wastewater treatment plants and to replace its aging landfill.

Priorities:

1. **Ten States Retreat:** Cal/EPA is providing coordinating support to the State of Chihuahua for the annual Ten States Retreat to be held in September or October. Representatives responsible for environmental quality and environmental protection for the States of Arizona, Baja California, California, Chihuahua, Coahuilla, New Mexico, Nuevo Leon, Sonora, Tamaulipas, and Texas will attend this meeting along with PROFEPA Secretary Victor Lichtinger and U.S. EPA Administrator Christine Todd Whitman.
2. **Clandestine Drug Laboratory Cleanup Memorandum of Understanding:** Illegal clandestine drug laboratories have become widespread in northern Baja California. The increased number of illegal laboratories is believed to be a result of increased surveillance and enforcement by the California Department of Justice, Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement, and their related task forces. In order to provide needed training, Cal/EPA is spearheading an effort to sign a memorandum of understanding between California and Mexican agencies that will provide for the sharing of information and technical assistance.
3. **Implementation of the Pretreatment and Wastewater Monitoring Agreement Program:** Implementation of this agreement is being phased in and is expected to be complete by July 1, 2003. During the remainder of 2002, a program to sample for and analyze specified chemicals in industrial wastewater will commence at four sites in Ensenada and at three sites in Mexicali. The results obtained from this sampling will be compared to other results available for the designated sampling areas to develop a composite profile of the hazards

- present in the industrial wastewater. Regulators from Mexico will accompany the samplers during the sampling events to receive training on standardized sampling techniques.
4. **Agreement of Cooperation Between the states of Baja California and California to Carry Out a Pilot-Scale Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program for the City of Tijuana:** It is anticipated that the emissions monitoring equipment will be installed and operational before the end of 2002.
 5. **Implementation of Advisory Groups:** The second half of 2002 will see the first meetings of two advisory groups from Cal/EPA boards, departments, and offices. The groups will set policy and priorities and monitor tasks of the border environmental programs within each BDO.
 6. **Joint California-Baja California Strategic Vision:** A strategic vision that will coordinate the environmental programs of California/Baja California's State and local agencies in the border region will be completed.
 7. **Environmental Management Systems (EMS):** Cal/EPA is managing a grant from the U.S. EPA to implement an EMS at three to four small-to-medium-sized businesses in the border region. The purpose of this program is to determine if EMS can be used as a tool to prevent the spread of contamination across the border. During the remainder of 2002, data will be gathered to identify contamination and businesses that will be the focus of the program.
 8. **Next Phase of the US-Mexico Bi-national Border Environmental Plan (formerly known as Border XXI):** Cal/EPA will actively participate in developing the next phase of the bi-national border environmental plan, along with the nine other U.S.-Mexico border states. It is anticipated the plan will be finalized by August and a work plan will be implemented in fall of 2002.

Children's Environmental Health Center (CEHC)

The CEHC coordinates—within Cal/EPA and with other State and federal agencies—on activities related to environmental impacts on children's health. Children are particularly sensitive to many environmental pollutants, and California is a leader in analyzing and responding to the challenge of protecting and improving their environmental health.

Accomplishments

1. **Children's Environmental Health Awareness Day:** On April 22 the CEHC hosted Cal/EPA's first Children's Environmental Health Awareness Day at Cal/EPA Headquarters in Sacramento. Twenty speakers delivered talks on children's environmental health issues and more than thirty posters, information booths, and displays were available for viewing and providing opportunities to interact with presenters.
2. **Outreach and Communication:** To assist in public outreach and communications, CEHC developed a page on the Cal/EPA Web site (www.calepa.ca.gov/ChildHealth/) where the first

biennial report to the Governor and Legislature can be viewed or downloaded. The CEHC is continuing to develop its strategic plan that will be posted on the Internet when finalized.

3. **Emergency Response:** CEHC is pursuing development of a plan to provide health information specific to children as part of emergency response to chemical or biological releases to the environment. Completion of this project is contingent on outside funding.
4. **Childhood Asthma:** CEHC participates on the steering committee of the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS) and the Association of State and Territorial Health Officers (ASTHO) charged with developing an asthma action agenda. The agenda will define what State health and environmental departments will need to do to reduce environmental triggers of asthma in children. The first of five workshops was held in May.

Priorities

1. **Outreach and Communications:** Complete development of the CEHC strategic plan; upgrade the CEHC Web site.
2. **Childhood Asthma:** Continue participation on the ECOS/ASTHO Asthma Action Agenda steering committee, attend workshops, and host one workshop in Sacramento. With input from DHS, develop an asthma action agenda for use by State health and environmental agencies to seek federal and private funding for better childhood asthma tracking and intervention. Evaluate participating in an ECOS/ASTHO-funded pilot project to reduce the triggers of childhood asthma.
3. **Coordination—Priority and Emerging Issues:** In collaboration with OEHHA and the Department of Health Services, develop plans for a workshop to discuss, identify, and prioritize issues related to children's environmental health in California. (Workshop to be scheduled for early 2003.)
4. **Coordination—Children's Environmental Health Emergency Response and Information Network:** Establish an intra- and interagency list of experts, including contact information, for use by the CEHC and others in the event of an emergency or to respond to questions related to ongoing children's environmental health issues.

Military Base Remediation and Reuse

This program, housed in the office of the Assistant Secretary for Military Base Remediation and Re-Use, oversees agencywide efforts to effectively and efficiently move closed military facilities back into productive state economic and environmental assets. Through careful coordination between the Office of the Secretary, the affected Cal/EPA boards, departments, and offices, local reuse planners, and civic leaders, this office has been able to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of these transfer and cleanup efforts.

In addition to simplifying and accelerating the transfer process, this office also assists with the development of policies and procedures for the retention of current active military assets within California and operates as an outreach and clearinghouse for business interests on closed military

facilities. In this respect, the office provides guidance and counsel to communities and interested parties, including developers, business and trade associations, and individuals regarding possible redevelopment efforts that can be quickly achieved while maintaining high environmental standards.

Accomplishments

1. Outreach Program:

- The Secretary hosted a panel of experts from the ARB and SWRCB before an audience of more than 250 international and domestic energy producers and providers to discuss environmental safeguards and levels of compliance for newly emerging power plants developed during the last year. Numerous contacts were made to enable Cal/EPA to ensure developer efforts were initially cognizant of the prevailing environmental regulatory safeguards, thereby enabling these power plant developments to move without interruption toward completion.
- Cal/EPA met with several outside groups consisting of trade associations, public interest groups, and business partnerships to discuss the impacts of current legislative changes on the environmental regulatory framework. The meetings also included discussion of future developments in the environmental regulatory arena. Participants included the California State Chamber of Commerce, California Manufacturers and Technology Association, California League of Cities, Association of California City Managers, and others.

2. Fees for Environmental Services: Cal/EPA prepared and submitted a proposal to the Department of Defense (DoD) via the Governor's office to request that DoD pay fees for environmental services mandated under State law when a modification is made to an existing military facility. Cal/EPA also prepared documents and talking points for the National Governors Association and the Western Governors' Association on this issue, as well as talking points for the Governor's Washington D.C. staff meeting with the California Congressional delegation.

3. Early Transfers: Cal/EPA, along with DTSC, ARB, and SWRCB, made significant efforts to advance the timely and effective transition of closed military facilities over the past six months. Significant accomplishments were achieved at several sites:

- East Fort Baker (Sausalito, Marin County). Approved the transfer of 93 acres to the National Park Service for local recreational reuse and conferences.
- Ft. Ord (Monterey County). Completed the early transfer of 767 acres to various State and local entities in April. Much of the land will be converted to housing, including affordable housing segments.
- Marine Corps Air Station (Tustin, Orange County). Concurred in the transfer of portions of 11 parcels to be leased for commercial and business uses.

4. **Analysis of Environmental Issues:** Submitted several analyses of proposed power plant sitings to the California Energy Commission and the Consumer Power and Conservation Financing Authority, enabling those proposals to go forward expeditiously.

Priorities

1. **Outreach Program:** Continue to expand the effort by the Office of the Secretary to meet with business associations, trade groups, and interested parties to explain the future of the State's environmental regulatory framework in order to enable them to more efficiently comply with the State's regulatory requirements. Cal/EPA will continue its efforts with:
 - California State Chamber of Commerce.
 - California Manufacturers and Technology Association.
 - California Association of Realtors.
 - California Bankers Association—northern and southern chapters.
 - California Aerospace Technology Association.
 - California League of Cities.

The Secretary is committed to cooperative efforts with other State agencies to advance objectives of mutual interest. Within the next six months these will include:

- California Technology, Trade, and Commerce Agency. Cal/EPA is working together with the agency on a statewide summit to be held in August entitled "Partnerships for Preparedness." The summit will discuss joint efforts of State and business leaders to ensure California remains a significant home to armed forces and related defense industry efforts, consistent with California's environmental regulatory framework. This effort will also include extensive joint efforts to address encroachment in all its permutations as it affects ongoing military operations.
- Resources Agency. Cal/EPA is expanding on an already close relationship working with the Resources Agency to aggressively address encroachment and the creation of buffer zones. These buffers will help reduce the effects of encroachment around existing military sites, enabling them to maintain current levels of operational training. Cal/EPA is also working closely with the Resources Agency to ensure that transfer to State ownership of a former military site (Hamilton Army Airfield) is completed without liability to the State for cleanup.
- Business Transportation and Housing Agency (BT&H). Cal/EPA has proposed a joint effort between BT&H, Cal/EPA, and the California Department of Veterans Affairs to examine the creation of housing units for veterans and dependents. The effort also includes housing for other qualifying families in areas that would revitalize former brownfields, preferably near transportation centers and providers of medical and other

necessary services. Cal/EPA intends to develop a proposal within the next six months for consideration by the other State agencies.

2. **Early Transfers:** Continue to work to accelerate and simplify the transfer process, returning these closed military sites to productive economic uses for local governments. Efforts will continue at the following bases:
 - Hamilton Army Airfield (Marin County). Transfer of 600 acres to the State Coastal Conservancy for creation of wetlands.
 - Mare Island Naval Shipyard (Solano County). Transfer of 2,800 acres to City of Vallejo for recreation and wildlife area development.
 - Oakland Army Base (Alameda County). Transfer of 380 acres to the City and Port of Oakland to redevelop for industrial, educational, commercial, and other uses.
 - Long Beach Naval Complex (Long Beach, Los Angeles County). Transfer of 90 acres to the Port of Long Beach to expand its container terminal.
 - Hunters Point Shipyard (San Francisco County). Transfer of 86 acres to City of San Francisco for reuse in August.
 - Naval Communications Station (Stockton, San Joaquin County). 1,400 acres to the Port of Stockton for general economic redevelopment.
 - Other facilities: Efforts underway at Treasure Island, El Toro Marine Air Base, Oak Knoll Naval Hospital, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, and elsewhere.
3. **Analyses of Environmental Issues:** The Office of the Secretary will continue to aggressively participate in the development of enhanced regulatory procedures which will enable otherwise vacant properties in need of cleanup to be returned to viable economic use with sufficient environmental safeguards in place. Toward that end, Cal/EPA will continue to work to advance the use of land use covenants and other deed restrictions in conjunction with partnerships to complete cleanups between local gaining communities and developers. The Assistant Secretary for Military Base Remediation and Re-Use will continue to represent the Agency's interest in developing positions consistent with the Governor's objectives. These objectives include creating an environmentally safe, but economically viable, land use policy that results in the decision by the DoD to remain in California.

Enforcement

Consistent and fair enforcement is required to achieve Cal/EPA's Strategic Vision of air that is healthy to breathe; rivers, lakes, estuaries and marine waters that are fishable and swimmable; groundwater that is safe for drinking and other beneficial uses; and communities that are free from unacceptable human health and ecological risks due to exposure from hazardous substances and other potential harmful agents. Enforcement is a key component in order to reduce or eliminate the disproportionate impacts of pollution on low income and minority populations, to

ensure a level playing field for regulated businesses and to provide a consistent level of community protection. The following is a brief description of Cal/EPA's enforcement efforts and goals.

To achieve Cal/EPA's strategic goals of an efficient and effective Cal/EPA in pursuit of its mission and its management priority of establishing cross-media strategies and coordination, the agency provides training on cross-media enforcement issues and coordination of cross-media investigations and enforcement actions.

Accomplishments

1. **Case Referrals:** The legal unit in the Office of the Secretary continues to refer and collaborate on enforcement cases pursuant to the authority granted by Government Code section 12812.2. The first case referred pursuant to the authority, an investigation into violations of underground storage tanks, was settled by the Attorney General's office (*People v. Atlantic Richfield Company [ARCO]*, San Francisco Superior Court No. CGC-02-409327). The terms of the judgment require that ARCO pay the State \$25 million in fines and costs and perform \$20.8 million in additional improvements at its stations. This case represents many firsts: the first major case brought by Cal/EPA pursuant to the cross-media enforcement authority in Government Code section 12812.2; the first case investigated by the State Water Board Underground Tank Enforcement Unit (created in 2000); the first major statewide underground enforcement case ever brought in California; and by many measures, the biggest underground tank enforcement case ever brought in the nation.
2. **Cross-Media Training:** Cal/EPA successfully delivered the first two 2002 sessions of the Cal/EPA Basic Inspector Academy in Sacramento and Perris. A total of 67 students participated in this training. Perris was chosen as a location to serve the training needs in Southern California. The Cal/EPA academy covers many basic investigation/inspection subjects, including cross-media issues. The class is available to State, tribal, and local field inspectors in environmental programs. These include inspection staff from within Cal/EPA and local agencies, including air districts, enforcement agencies, certified unified program agencies (CUPA), regional water quality control boards, and county agricultural commissioners. To date, a total of 149 students have attended the academy since it began in February 2001.

Cal/EPA held the Ninth Annual Environmental Cross-Media Enforcement Symposium in Coronado, California. The symposium provided training in inspection, identification of violations, and administrative, civil, and criminal processes to 271 enforcement officials. Cross-media enforcement topics were addressed through a combination of video presentations, panels, group discussions, lectures, and mock legal proceedings. Qualified attendees were eligible to receive continuing education units (CEU), mandatory continuing legal education (MCLE) credits, and peace officer standards and training (POST) credits. Portions of the training material were provided on a compact disc to reduce the use of paper and reproduction costs.

An inspector training clearinghouse was created and published on Cal/EPA's Web site (www.calepa.ca.gov/Enforcement/Training/Clearinghouse.htm.) The clearinghouse is designed to facilitate consistent and effective enforcement across environmental disciplines, encourage cross training, and help agencies share limited training resources. The site contains links to courses in air, water, hazardous waste, hazardous material, solid waste, and pesticide regulation.

Cal/EPA hosted a seminar on underground storage tank (UST) regulation for prosecutors and regulators in Southern California. The purpose was to bring together those who inspect and investigate violations with those who ultimately bring civil and criminal cases so that both can understand their roles and needs. Cal/EPA also hosts "Prosecutor Roundtables" on a quarterly basis in Southern and Northern California to give environmental prosecutors at the State, federal, and local level an opportunity to discuss ongoing cases and legal issues and to get needed information from regulatory programs. The UST seminar was a result of a request from the Southern California Roundtable for additional training on that issue.

3. **Cross-Media Investigations:** Several pending cross-media enforcement cases have been identified and investigations are underway using cross-media enforcement tools. The ARCO case discussed above utilized State and local air and water inspectors and was the first Cal/EPA-led cross-media investigation.

Cal/EPA led and coordinated an investigation by the ARB, DTSC, and local Unified Program Agencies of uncontrolled releases of hazardous jewelry manufacturing wastes from the jewelry businesses in downtown Los Angeles. This area is known as the "Jewelry Mart." The case involves 30–40 buildings and hundreds of small-to-large businesses. This case utilized many tools for achieving compliance, including traditional enforcement, compliance assistance, and outreach. An enforcement case related to specific individuals was referred by Cal/EPA, ARB, and DTSC to the Attorney General's office.

Cal/EPA worked with State and local officials and industry in a coordinated outreach effort to inform the Jewelry Mart businesses of the regulatory requirements and compliance assistance information. In early 2002, an outreach and education seminar was put on for the Jewelry Mart by a joint effort of the local business community, the City of Los Angeles, and State and local environmental regulatory agencies. This was followed by communication with the building owners in the district and by inspections of the buildings.

These outreach and education efforts seek to give the owners and tenants information they need to come into voluntary compliance and reduce the hazardous materials used in their businesses. Those who do not take advantage of these efforts and remain in violation will be subject to enforcement actions.

4. **Enforcement Information Access and Data Integration:** Cal/EPA now publishes its own Enforcement Web page at <http://calepa.ca.gov/Enforcement>. This site provides enforcement resources, data, and laws and regulations for Cal/EPA's boards, departments, and offices. The site also includes links to federal, regional, and local enforcement agencies.

Cal/EPA received a U.S. EPA Network Readiness Grant. Through the Integrated Data Environmental Assessment (IDEA) project, this grant will provide a mechanism to integrate enforcement data among the Cal/EPA boards and departments. Cal/EPA participated in the steering committee to coordinate this effort among its BDOs.

5. **Enforcement Progress Report:** Cal/EPA prepared an enforcement progress report that provides information on environmental enforcement in California from 1999–2001. This new report described the progress achieved—and the many contributions made—by each Cal/EPA board, department, and office, and by regional and local enforcement agencies. View the report at www.calepa.ca.gov/Enforcement/documents/ProgReport.pdf.

6. **Enforcement Special Projects:**

- American Bar Association. The Deputy Secretary for Law Enforcement and Counsel represented Cal/EPA as the keynote speaker for 31st Annual Conference on Environmental Law in Keystone, Colorado, in March. The American Bar Association’s environment, energy, and resources section hosted the conference. The theme of the plenary session was “The Challenge: Cheap Power and Clean Air.” Speaking topics included the energy shortage, Governor’s executive orders, power plant construction, the summer of 2001, air quality/California growth, and a California perspective on new source review. The Deputy Secretary also spoke at the session about recent developments at Cal/EPA, including environmental justice and enforcement.
- Environmental Justice. By participating in the development and delivery of training courses for Cal/EPA management and employees, Cal/EPA staff continues to provide legal support for the environmental justice program. Training topics cover the legal framework within which decisions are made and actions taken by Cal/EPA and its entities. More than 500 State and local employees have completed the training to date; courses are offered on a bimonthly basis.

Cal/EPA staff provided legal advice and assistance to the environmental justice program at the historic first joint meeting of the interagency working group on environmental justice and the external advisory committee on environmental justice. The meeting spanned two days and was held in Los Angeles. Its purpose was to begin developing a strategy for achieving environmental justice for all California citizens.

- Desert Managers Group (DMG). California’s southern deserts are vast, fragile lands within a day’s drive of 40 million people. Approximately 80 percent of the desert is publicly owned and includes 3 national parks, 6 military bases, 72 wilderness areas, and 15 State parks. The DMG was established as the forum for government agencies with management and regulatory jurisdictions in the southern desert area. The law enforcement and hazardous materials interagency working group serves as technical advisors to the DMG; a Cal/EPA legal unit staff member has been selected to co-chair this work group. This work group sponsors an annual “Dumps of the Desert” tour in the California Mojave Desert conservation area. This tour includes a variety of open and

closed landfills and continuing active dump sites to get a perspective of the scale of illegal disposal problems in California's desert communities. Some closed sites represented the cleanup of hundreds of tons of illegal solid waste, and other sites were in initial cleanup stages. Many sites are being cleaned up under the Solid Waste Disposal and Codisposal Site Cleanup Program (Public Resources Code section 48020).

6. **Border:** Cal/EPA legal unit staff co-chairs the Border Environmental Enforcement Task Force, a group of U.S. federal, State, and local officials who meet quarterly in the California-Mexico border area to discuss border-related environmental enforcement issues. Enforcement issues discussed include the illegal dumping of tires and solid waste, air and water pollution issues, disposal of hazardous waste, and the international transportation of hazardous waste and endangered species. Cal/EPA cosponsored a border states and U.S. EPA conference on environmental enforcement and compliance issues. Environmental enforcement officials from California, Texas, Arizona, and New Mexico met to discuss enforcement issues on the U.S.-Mexican border.

Cal/EPA legal unit staff also co-chairs the binational enforcement work group meeting of enforcement officials from the U.S. and Mexico that focuses on binational enforcement issues. As a result of the work of this group, environmental officials from the State of Baja California, Mexico attended training in the U.S. on advance environmental investigation techniques at the federal training facilities in Glencoe, Georgia.

The Cal/EPA Deputy Secretary for Law Enforcement and Counsel was named the U.S. state representative to the North American Enforcement Working Group of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation, an international organization created by Canada, Mexico, and the United States under the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation. This organization was established to address regional environmental concerns, help prevent potential trade and environmental conflicts, and to promote the effective enforcement of environmental law. The agreement complements the environmental provisions of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

For information on Certified Unified Program Agency enforcement, see the separate report under CUPA programs.

Priorities

1. Cross-Media Enforcement Training:

- Provide Cal/EPA Basic Inspector Academy training in El Monte and Sacramento, California, to an additional 60 Cal/EPA inspectors.
- Continue to solicit the attendance and participation of our Mexican counterparts and tribal EPA members in training opportunities.
- Coordinate environmental criminal and civil investigation training at the U.C. Riverside Cooperative Extension Service to provide exposure to the most modern techniques in criminal and civil investigation applied in an environmental context.

- Assist in the coordination for future training in specific areas.
- 2. **Cross-Media Investigations:** Cal/EPA will continue to make enforcement case referrals to U.S. Attorneys, the California Attorney General, and local district attorneys pursuant to the authority granted by Government Code section 12812.2.

Cal/EPA legal unit staff will continue to encourage and enhance cross-media enforcement throughout Cal/EPA and its boards, departments, and offices by facilitating and assisting in the development of cross-media activities. Cal/EPA will maintain its progress in providing and expanding support and assistance to environmental task forces throughout California to encourage consistency, coordination, and efficiency in enforcement efforts. These efforts will increase knowledge sharing between local enforcement agencies, the federal government, and Cal/EPA.

- 3. **Enforcement Support:** Cal/EPA will continue to provide legal and administrative support to the CUPA enforcement programs, the California-Baja California border affairs unit, the children's environmental health center, and environmental management and sustainability programs.

Cal/EPA will also continue to provide legal support to the environmental justice program and advisory council as it develops a strategy and begins implementation of the environmental justice program statewide.

Cal/EPA will continue to co-chair the Desert Managers Group, whose priorities are illegal dumping and abating abandoned mine site hazards. New initiatives will include inventorying the illegal dumpsites in a database and developing a public service announcement (PSA) for radio and TV that all communities in the desert can use. The PSA will be developed in conjunction with brochures on illegal dumping. Cal/EPA will also assist the Native American tribal communities in developing strategies to combat and abate illegal disposals of hazardous waste in their communities.

- 4. **Enforcement Information Access and Data Integration:** Cal/EPA legal unit staff will work with its consultants to continue making progress as outlined in the IDEA project readiness grant proposals. Staff will assist in planning to integrate enforcement data information among Cal/EPA's boards, departments, offices, and external agencies. A major priority will be to advance an enforcement data project with the intent to provide "one-stop" access to enforcement data from local, State, and federal agencies within Sacramento County.

The Cal/EPA legal unit will work on improving and expanding the resources posted on its new Enforcement Web site.

Unified Program

Established in 1994, the Unified Program combines the implementation and administration of six previously distinct hazardous substances regulatory programs into a single program under the direction of a single local governmental entity called a Certified Unified Program Agency

(CUPA). The intent of the program is to improve public health and environmental protection by improving coordination and consistency in the implementation of the six unified programs through consolidation. The six program elements included in the program are: the underground storage tank program, above ground tank program, hazardous waste generator and tiered permitting programs, hazardous materials business plan program, accidental release of hazardous substances program, and hazardous materials elements of the Fire Code. Collectively, the Unified Program regulates 120,000 businesses within California.

Cal/EPA's Unified Program section in part fulfills Cal/EPA's Strategic Vision goals to ensure that communities are free from unacceptable human health and ecological risks due to exposure from hazardous substances and other potential harmful agents, and ensures an effective and efficient Cal/EPA in pursuit of its mission. These goals also seek to reduce or eliminate the disproportionate impacts of pollution on low-income and minority populations.

Accomplishments

1. **Certification of Jurisdictions without CUPAs:** Cal/EPA certified the following 10 counties to implement the Unified Program beginning in June: Calaveras, Colusa, Glenn, Inyo, Lassen, Mariposa, Modoc, Plumas, Sierra, and Tehama. Four remaining jurisdictions have not been certified to implement the program. Of those, Butte is still in the certification process. Imperial County is in the process of preparing and submitting an application. Cal/EPA's goals 4 and 8 reflect the above accomplishments made by the Unified Program section.
2. **Unified Program Information Management:** The feasibility study report (FSR) developed previously to establish a statewide Internet-based GIS reporting system for business-to-CUPA, CUPA-to-State, and State-to-federal reporting was revised and submitted to the appropriate State offices. The program has also continued efforts to improve the data dictionary in Title 27, California Code of Regulations (CCR) that is the basis for all Unified Program reporting and an essential part of the proposed system. The first meeting of the Unified Program administration and advisory group data committee was held. The committee, with representatives from the CUPA forum board, State agencies with Unified Program responsibilities, and U.S. EPA, established the scope of work for this committee and proposed timeframes to complete that work. Subsequent meetings are scheduled to develop needed improvements that will be codified through the rulemaking process.
3. **Enforcement Consistency:** Following last year's development of a concept paper that described Unified Program enforcement inconsistencies and recommended changes, and the receipt of comments in two public workshops, the Unified Program administration and advisory group enforcement committee members developed specific proposed statutory language to enact the recommendations. This proposal would establish a single consistent Unified Program administrative enforcement authority that would enhance Unified Program consistency, provide a viable enforcement option for all key program elements, facilitate multimedia enforcement actions, and help maintain the lowest possible CUPA program

implementation costs. The proposal is now a section of AB 2481 (Fromer) that is currently undergoing legislative consideration.

4. **CUPA Evaluations:** Cal/EPA facilitated the evaluation of 17 CUPAs during the first half of 2002. One evaluation has been rescheduled to August at the request of the CUPA. Cal/EPA issued 21 draft evaluation reports and 4 final reports. From a backlog of 66 uncompleted evaluation reports that existed in July 2001 when Unified Program administration responsibilities were transferred to a new section within the Office of the Secretary, Cal/EPA has issued 50 final evaluation reports. A new tracking database has been developed and implemented for the current CUPA evaluations (second round), which began July 2001. Staff updates the data on an ongoing basis, and a weekly status report is provided to State agency management to ensure timelines are being met. An evaluation work plan has been developed and coordinated with the CUPA Forum Board and other State agencies with Unified Program responsibilities. The work plan addresses the assessment and specific improvements to the evaluation process, reporting, tracking and follow-up, and guidance materials. During the first six months of 2002, three new members of the Unified Program section staff were trained as evaluation team leaders to facilitate CUPA evaluations.
5. **Outreach:** Senior staff represented the Cal/EPA Unified Program section at all the Northern, Central, and Southern California CUPA Forum regional meetings held during the second half of FY 2001–02. At each of these meetings staff discussed the latest legislative and regulatory activities, policy decisions, program accomplishments, and project status. Staff obtained feedback related to pending projects or areas of concern related to the implementation and enforcement of the Unified Program.
6. **Communication:** The Unified Program section has completely redesigned the Web site (www.calepa.ca.gov/CUPA/) to better meet the needs of the users. The Web site is updated in a timely manner and is the collective resource for information on program updates, contacts, legislation, and technical assistance for the Unified Program. Cal/EPA has encouraged stakeholders to visit the Web site regularly by including links to the Web site in the monthly electronic mail-out.
7. **Rural CUPA Reimbursement Account:** This fund was legislatively established to provide financial assistance to those non-CUPA counties whose total number of regulated businesses was insufficient to support the Unified Program through fees alone. Of the 15 non-CUPA jurisdictions at the time this fund was established, 14 met the eligibility standards based on county population. In addition to population criteria, eligible jurisdictions must become certified to implement the program, enact a fee system to support their portion of program costs, and submit the application. Ten jurisdictions met the requirements, and checks were mailed to all ten providing reimbursement in accordance with the statutory formula.

Priorities

1. **Certification of Jurisdictions without CUPAs:** Following the success of the last two years, only four jurisdictions are currently lacking a Certified Unified Program Agency. These four

jurisdictions include Butte County, which is near completion of the process and is expected to be certified early in the summer of 2002; and Imperial County, which is currently nearing completion of its application for certification and is also expected to be certified in the next year. Cal/EPA is continuing discussions with Sutter and Trinity Counties and is preparing an issue paper to identify viable alternatives for program implementation if these jurisdictions chose not to implement the program. To assist the new CUPA jurisdictions that were recently certified, Cal/EPA and the State agencies with Unified Program responsibilities will provide technical assistance and review the status of program implementation in visits to each new CUPA approximately four to six months after certification. Cal/EPA will also provide training specific to these new, smaller, and more rural CUPAs at the annual Unified Program conference in February 2003.

2. **Unified Program Information Management:** During the next six months, additional FSR revisions will be completed and resubmitted to enable Department of Finance approval of the proposal. Following approval, Cal/EPA will continue attempts to identify funding to begin contractor development of the system. In addition, the Unified Program Administrative and Advisory Group (UPAAG) data committee will develop the specific recommendations necessary to update the data dictionary, revise reporting forms, and begin the rulemaking process to establish these improvements in CCR, Title 27.
3. **Enforcement Consistency:** During the second half of 2002, the UPAAG enforcement committee will develop the necessary guidance, forms, training, and support to enable all CUPAs to quickly and easily implement the new Unified Program administrative enforcement authority that is anticipated to be effective January 1, 2003.
4. **CUPA Evaluations:** The Unified Program section will conduct 10 CUPA evaluations during the first half of FY 2002–03, issue evaluation reports on time, and finalize the remaining 16 evaluation reports. The section will initiate work efforts on high-priority evaluation improvements as identified in coordination with all stakeholders, and will improve and streamline the evaluation process and reporting components of the triennial CUPA evaluations.
5. **Outreach:** The Unified Program section will continue to attend and actively participate in all regional CUPA Forum meetings and will develop and distribute the first annual “State of the Unified Program” report to all stakeholders by December 1.
6. **Analysis of the State Surcharge:** Cal/EPA is conducting a comprehensive review of the State surcharge. This will include a historical review of the State surcharge that has been billed, collected, and remitted, as well as consideration of expanding the surcharge tracking system. Cal/EPA is updating forms and instructions used by CUPAs to report surcharge information. The analysis is equitably applied to all regulated entities to keep the fee as low as possible while ensuring adequate funding for all State-related Unified Program activities.
7. **Communication:** The Unified Program section will continue to work with information management staff to develop a new directory of Unified Program stakeholders. Goals for the

project include: a comprehensive updated directory of contact information for all Unified Program agencies, a free subscription service for the monthly mail out, e-mail groups for different committees and stakeholders, a search function by geographic region, and program elements of responsibility for all participating agencies.

Quality Programs

Cal/EPA's Quality Improvement Partnership focuses on continuous organizational improvement and performance excellence. Cal/EPA's Assistant Secretary for Quality Programs—along with quality consultants from its boards, departments, and offices—provides internal management consultation on organizational effectiveness. The areas covered include strategic planning, process improvement, performance interventions, facilitation, resource development, and improvement in service delivery.

Continuous organizational improvement and performance tie directly to Cal/EPA's Strategic Vision, goal 8: An efficient and effective Cal/EPA in pursuit of its mission. The work supports Cal/EPA's objectives to 1) lead by example, 2) expand and improve cross-media communications, collaboration, and training, and 3) conduct continuous evaluations of program effectiveness.

Accomplishments

1. **Strategic Vision Implementation:** The Strategic Vision implementation team met regularly to discuss tactical implementation plans/work plans and to coordinate activities. All implementation plans were shared among Cal/EPA's boards, departments, and offices and with the Office of the Secretary. Linkage between Cal/EPA's Strategic Vision, strategic plans, and the Environmental Protection Indicators for California (EPIC) were assessed in terms of measures and quantifiable accomplishments.
2. **Cal/EPA Headquarters Building:** Activities continue to be planned to build camaraderie and increase communication and collaboration within the Cal/EPA. Along with the EPANet (the agency's Intranet site), the Office of the Secretary introduced the capability to send all-staff e-mail messages statewide (thus bridging separate e-mail systems.) In addition, an agencywide celebration of Earth Day occurred on April 22. This was the first time in Cal/EPA's history that a cross-organizational team worked collaboratively on planning and hosting Earth Day activities with scientific, educational, and interactive displays, computer learning, and departmental displays.
3. **Open Staff Forums:** In January and February, open staff forums were held in Southern and Northern California (Los Angeles, El Monte, Oakland). These forums were modeled after the successful open staff forum at the Cal/EPA Headquarters Building in November 2001. Agency Secretary Winston H. Hickox and directors/executive officers addressed Cal/EPA staff and responded to questions from the audience. The intent was to open a dialogue between staff and leadership, foster improved understanding of Cal/EPA's goals and actions, and build awareness of issues.

4. **Management Forums:** On April 9, Cal/EPA held its first of three scheduled management forums for approximately 250 Cal/EPA managers and supervisors. The forums provide an opportunity for the entire Cal/EPA management team to meet, listen to speakers, and ask questions on issues pertinent to the implementation of California's programs to protect the environment. Lynn Schenk, Chief of Staff to Governor Davis, and a panel of environmental leaders were featured in the first forum.
5. **The Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Awards:** Cal/EPA, in collaboration with the Resources Agency and the Department of Conservation, initiated the 2002 Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Awards program. Cal/EPA staff conducted outreach for additional program sponsors and updated promotional materials for statewide distribution. Evaluation review committees were formulated and 2002 award information was posted—ahead of schedule—on the Web sites of the State of California, the Governor, Cal/EPA, and the Resources Agency.
6. **Cross-Organizational Working Groups:** Teams comprised of Cal/EPA staff members and external representatives continued their work through the disability advisory council, the environmental management system steering committee, and the newly formed Integrated Data Environmental Assessment (IDEA) team. The IDEA project draws together representatives from each of the boards, departments, and offices of Cal/EPA and U.S. EPA to address the development of an integrated information management system.

Priorities

1. **Strategic Vision Implementation:** Work will continue to refine the integration of the EPIC with the strategic plan measures of each board, department, and office, and with Cal/EPA's Strategic Vision goals. In addition, a process will be developed for the routine reporting of strategic plan milestones/accomplishments to the Office of the Secretary.
2. **Communication/Collaboration:** Open staff forums will be held in Sacramento in fall 2002, and two management forums will be held in Sacramento before the end of 2002. Working groups/teams will continue their work during the latter half of 2002. The Cal/EPA Headquarters Building will serve as a facility for events that foster improved communication and collaboration within the agency.
3. **The Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Awards:** The award nomination, evaluation, and selection processes will occur during the latter half of 2002. Award winners will be recognized at a formal ceremony held in Sacramento on December 4.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Gray Davis, Governor

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CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Winston H. Hickox, Secretary

1001 "I" Street • P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, California 95812
916.445.3846

www.calepa.ca.gov

Office of Environmental Health
Hazard Assessment
916.445.6903
www.oehha.ca.gov

Air Resources Board
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